



# News Release

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Contact: Media inquiries: [Marqise Allen](#), Communications Office  
Public inquiries: Health Systems Customer Service

360-236-4072  
360-236-4700

## **State revokes, suspends licenses, certifications, registrations of health care providers**

**OLYMPIA** — The Washington State Department of Health has revoked or suspended the licenses, certifications, or registrations of health care providers in our state. The department has also immediately suspended the credentials of people who have been prohibited from practicing in other states.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency's website. Click on "[Look up a healthcare provider license](#)" in the "How Do I?" section of the [Department of Health home page](#) ([www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

### **Clallam County**

In January 2015 the secretary of health suspended the registered nursing assistant credential of **Leslie Erin Spires** (NA60284808) for at least five years. While working as a caregiver for vulnerable adults, Spires used clients' gift and electronic benefits transfer cards to buy \$260.75 worth of items for herself. After determining that Spires financially exploited a vulnerable adult, the state Department of Social and Health Services prohibited her from being employed in caring for and having unsupervised access to vulnerable adults.

### **Clark County**

In January 2015 the Nursing Assistant Program entered into an agreement with registered nursing assistant **Robert B. McBain** (NA00092892) under which his credential is suspended for at least two years. McBain and his wife owned and operated an adult family home that admitted a 97-year-old dementia patient who developed wounds that weren't properly cared for. The patient died after being admitted first to a hospital and then to hospice care. The state Department of Social and Health Services found that McBain had neglected a vulnerable adult.

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In January 2015 the secretary of health issued a cease and desist order to **Yan Min Niu** for practicing massage therapy without a license. She was also fined \$1,000. Niu engaged in the practice of massage with at least one client.

In January 2015 the secretary of health indefinitely suspended the massage practitioner credential of **Stacy Jean Stalcup** (MA60188545), who practiced massage and advertised her massage services with an expired license.

In January 2015 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended the registered nursing credential of **Shannon Leigh Latendresse** (RN60321931). Her medical history listed her as a daily intravenous drug user who regularly injected heroin.

### **Douglas County**

In January 2015 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended the registered nursing credential of **Tiffany E. Leach** (RN00161236) for not following her substance abuse monitoring contract.

### **King County**

In January 2015 the secretary of health suspended the registered nursing assistant credential of **Cynthia Syll Bazil** (NA00185842) for at least 10 years. While working for an in-home care agency, Bazil was assigned to care for two developmentally disabled, vulnerable adults, one of whom she struck with a spatula. Bazil and another nursing assistant tied the two patients' bedroom doors in an effort to restrain their movements and to keep them from leaving their rooms. They also tied one patient's hands together to restrain the patient's movements.

In January 2015 the secretary of health suspended the certified nursing assistant credential of **James Mu-Daw Shao** (NC60183672) for at least 24 months. Shao mentally and physically abused one resident and exploited another while working at an assisted living facility. The state Department of Social and Health Services prohibited him from being employed in caring for and having unsupervised access to vulnerable adults.

In January 2015 the secretary of health indefinitely suspended the surgical technologist credential of **William Leverentz** (ST60340955). He was found to be unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety.

In January 2015 the Nursing Assistant Program entered into an agreement with registered nursing assistant **Cristian Cornel Babalai** (NA60119021) under which his credential is revoked for at least 15 years. In 2014 Babalai was convicted of five counts of first-degree robbery.

In January 2015 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program suspended the chemical dependency professional trainee and chemical dependency professional credentials of **Eric R. Daniels** (CO60158053, CP60235877) for five years. Daniels falsified documents related to clients' treatment status.

### **Kitsap County**

In January 2015 the secretary of health issued a cease and desist order to **Emma Ipalari Cu** for practicing as a dental hygienist without a license and fined her \$5,000. Cu admitted to providing dental hygiene services for about four years.

### **Kittitas County**

In January 2015 the Osteopathic Board withdrew a statement of charges against osteopathic physician **Gayle Hamann Smith** (OP60189887).

### **Mason County**

In January 2015 the secretary of health suspended the certified medical assistant-phlebotomist credential of **Teresa M. Horne** (PC60360165) for at least five years. Horne was convicted of two counts of second-degree identity theft and one count of forgery in 2014.

### **Snohomish County**

In January 2015 the Massage Practitioner Program entered into an agreement with massage practitioner **Tyrel N. Kuebler** (MA60277825) that revokes his credential for at least five years. While massaging a client, Kuebler touched her breast and pubic area.

### **Thurston County**

In January 2015 the secretary of health issued a cease and desist order to **Xiaolong Ma** for practicing reflexology without a license and fined her \$1,000. Ma owns a foot massage facility and massaged at least two clients' feet for compensation.

### **Yakima County**

In January 2015 the Pharmacy Commission entered into an agreement with pharmacist **Rachel Lee Loukas** (PH60142436) under which her credential remains suspended until at least October 24, 2016. Her credential was immediately suspended in 2014. Two pharmacy technicians saw Loukas falling asleep while she was checking prescriptions at a pharmacy. When they tried to wake her, she said, "I'm done," told them to call the pharmacy manager, grabbed a bottle of morphine, and took about five tablets. Loukas, who was already subject to a substance abuse monitoring contract, was taken to a hospital. She was diagnosed with acute alcohol intoxication and also tested positive for morphine.

In January 2015 the secretary of health indefinitely suspended the certified nursing assistant credential of **Maria Fernandez** (NC10055646). While working at an assisted living facility, Fernandez hit a patient on the shoulder after the patient scratched her forehead. The state Department of Social and Health Services, after concluding that Fernandez abused a vulnerable adult, banned her from being employed in caring for and having unsupervised access to vulnerable adults. Fernandez didn't respond to a statement of charges after her license was immediately suspended.

### **Out of State**

**Missouri:** In January 2015 the Nursing Commission indefinitely suspended the registered nurse credential of **William Bolling Brawley** (RN60397643), whose Florida license was suspended because of an inability to practice with reasonable skill and safety.

**New York:** In January 2015 the Medical Commission withdrew a statement of charges against physician assistant **Kristen A. Gnage** (PA10004830).

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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